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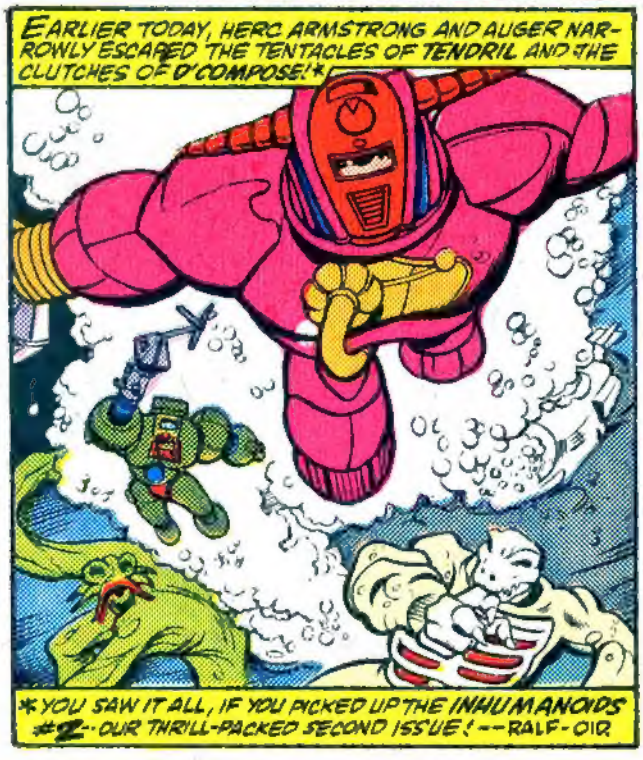
IN THE DOMAIN OF D'COMPOSE!
STAR!
THE NEW WORLD IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!

Four super-scientists—*Herc Armstrong, Derek Bright, Eddie (Auger) Augutter,* and *Jonathan M. (Liquidator) Slattery*—have joined forces to become *Earth Corps!* Their mission—to defend Earth from the ancient monsters from its core—

THE INHUMANOIDS



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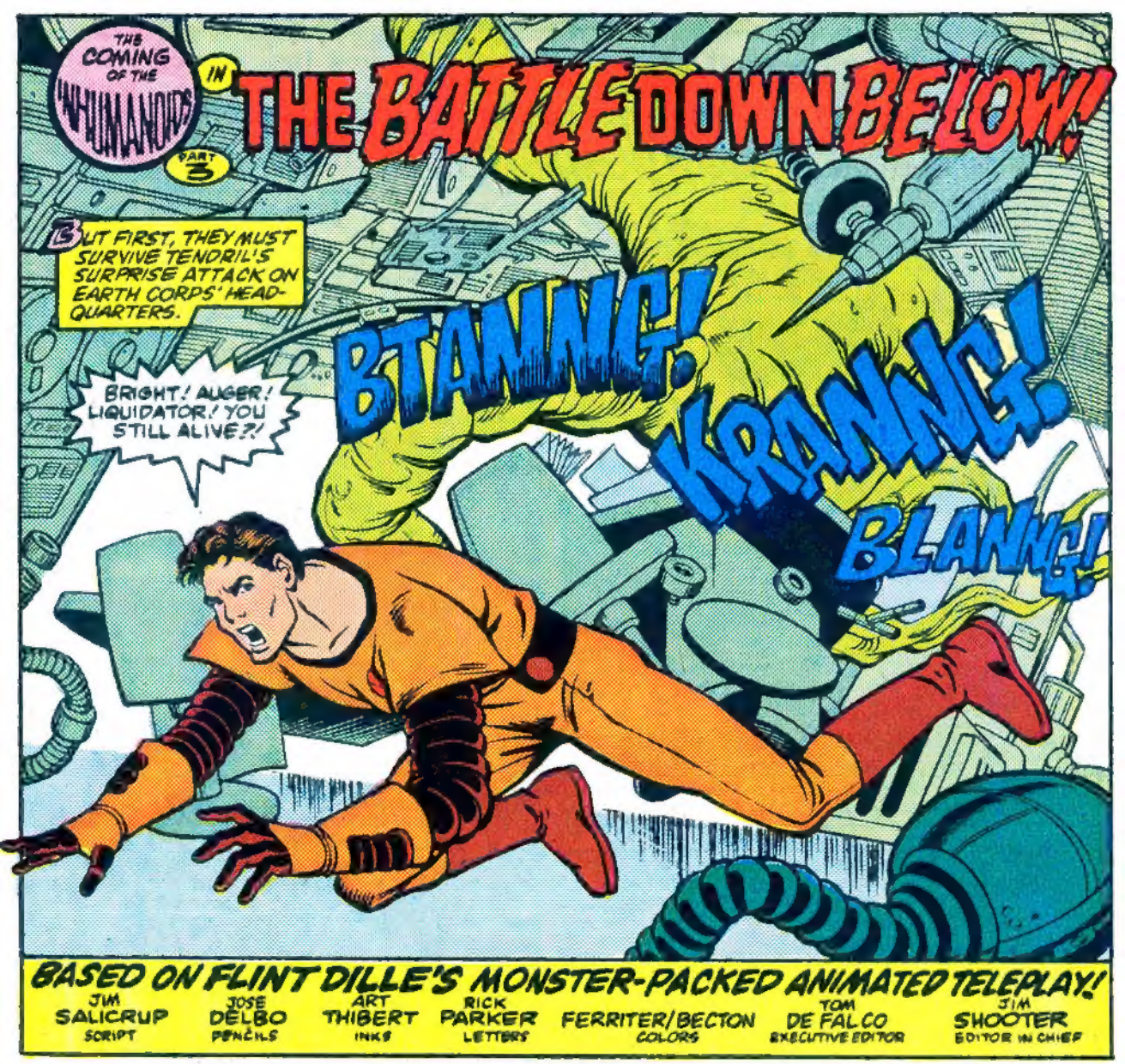
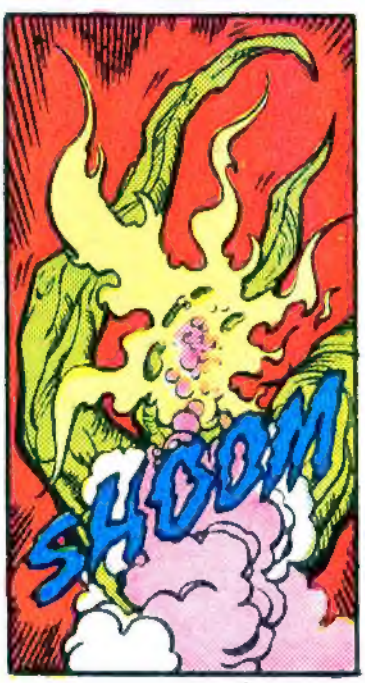
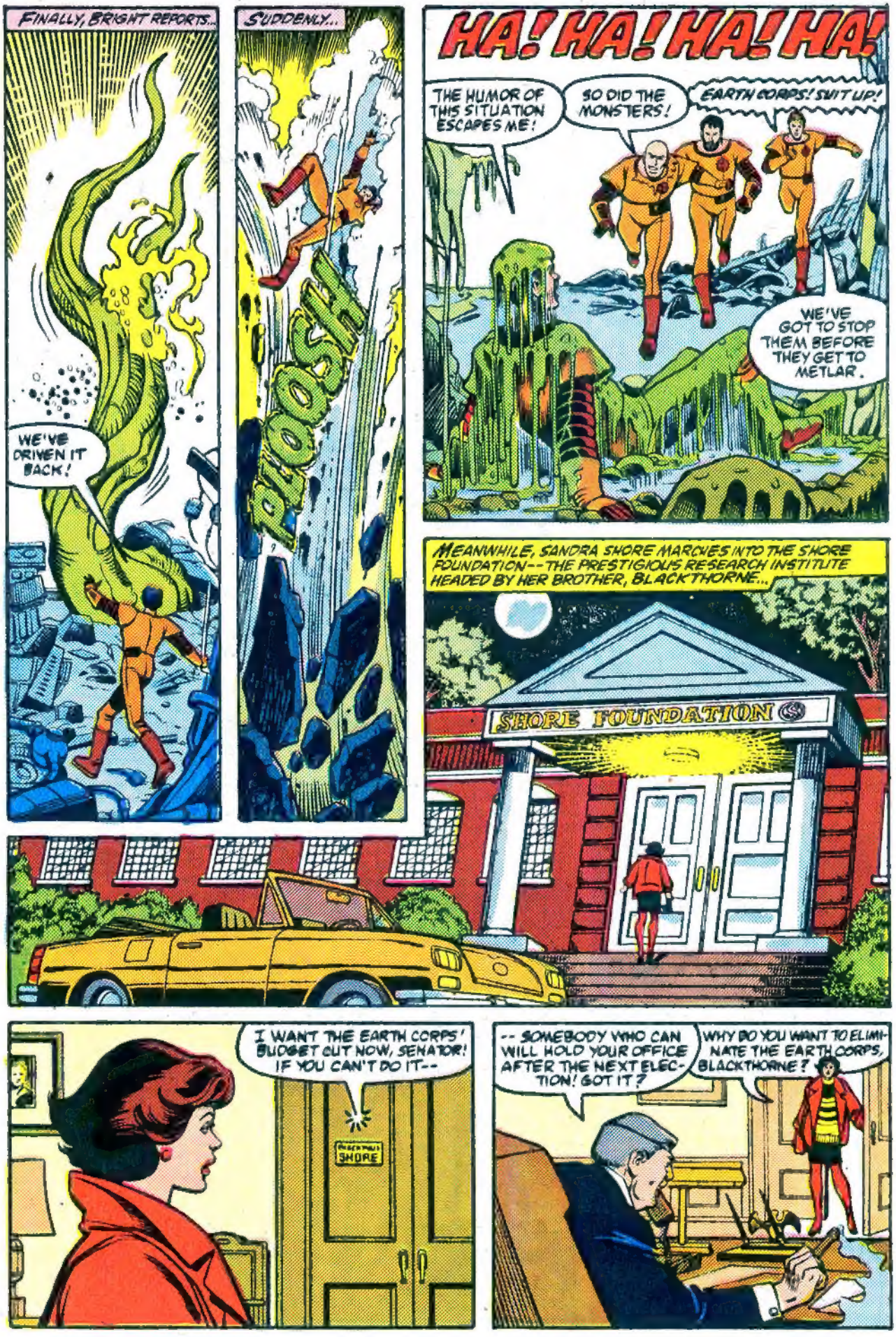

THE COMING OF THE INHUMANOIDS
PART 3
IN
THE BATTLE DOWN BELOW!
BUT FIRST, THEY MUST SURVIVE TENDRIL'S SURPRISE ATTACK ON EARTH CORPS' HEADQUARTERS.
BRIGHT! AUGER! LIQUIDATOR! YOU STILL ALIVE?!
BTANNG!
KRANNG!
BLANNG!
BASED ON FLINT DILLE'S MONSTER-PACKED ANIMATED TELEPLAY!
JIM SALICRUP SCRIPT
JOSE DELBO PENCILS
ART THIBERT INKS
RICK PARKER LETTERS
FERRITER/BECTON COLORS
TOM DE FALCO EXECUTIVE EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

AUGER IS FIRST TO RESPOND TO HERC'S DESPERATE CRY...
THAT CREATURE'S GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME! THIS WAS MY FAVORITE SHIRT!
SLAM!

THEN LIQUIDATOR CHECKS IN...
I HOPE THIS WORKS!

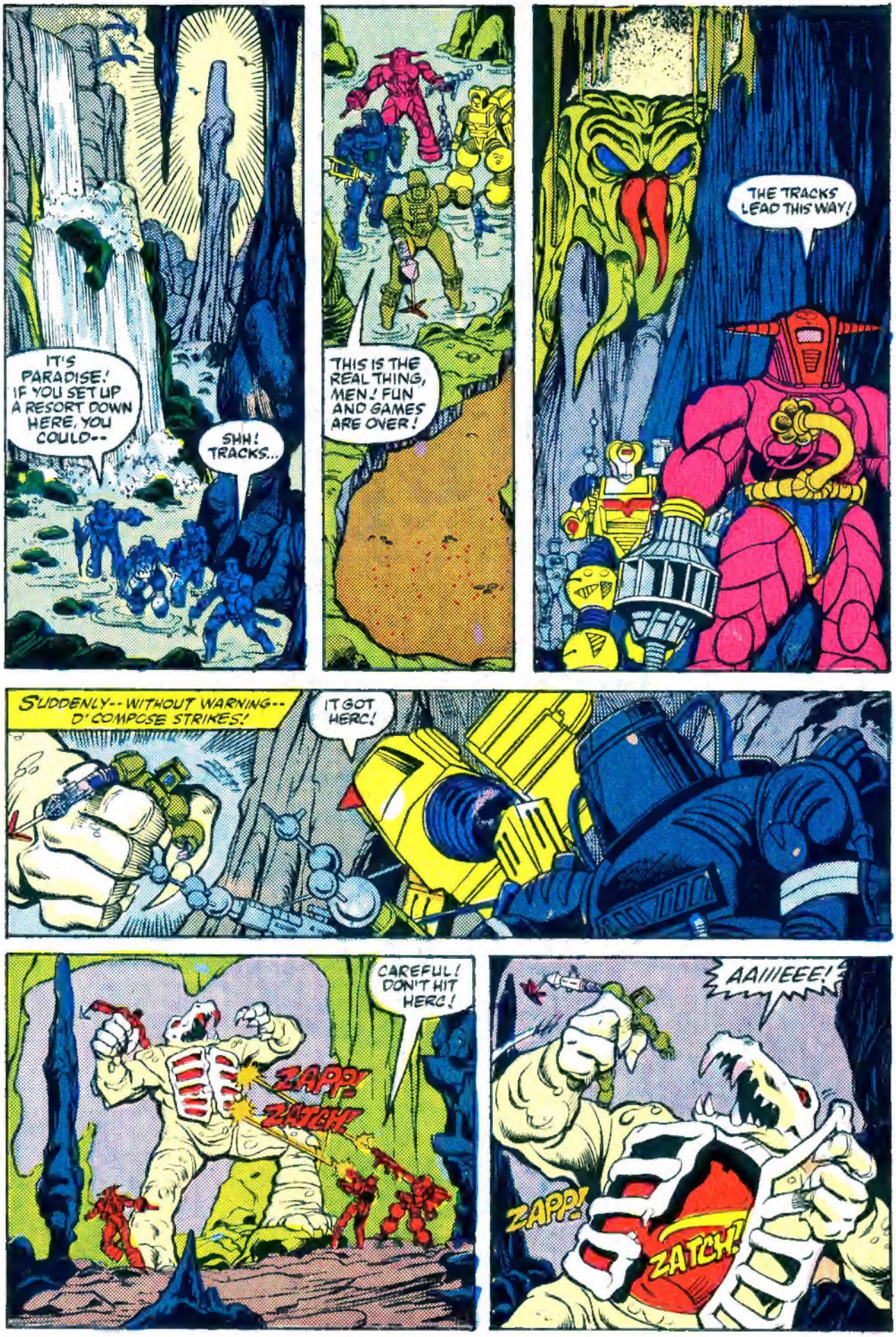

SHOOM

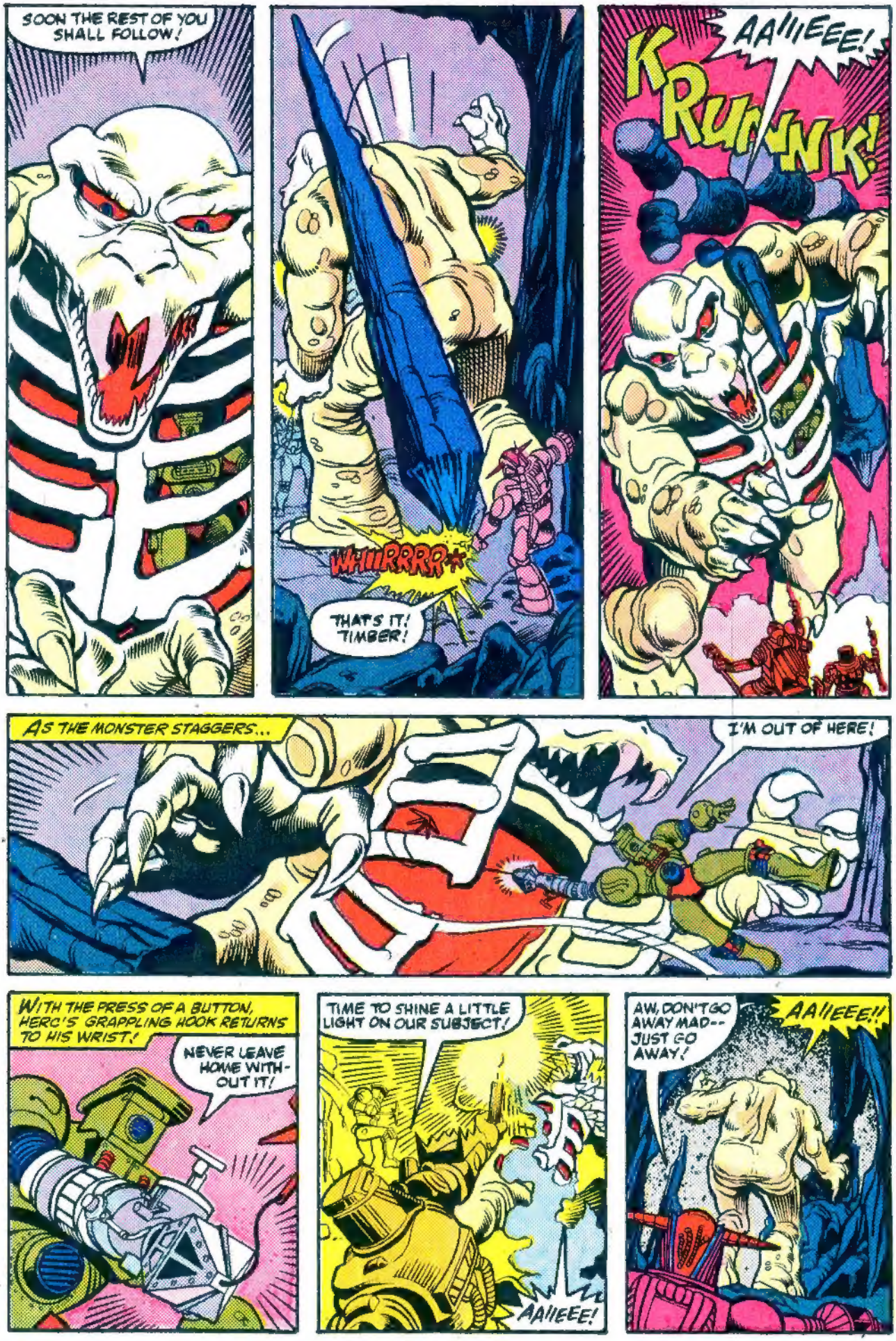

FINALLY, BRIGHT REPORTS..
WE'VE DRIVEN IT BACK!
SUDDENLY..
PHOOSH!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
THE HUMOR OF THIS SITUATION ESCAPES ME!
SO DID THE MONSTERS!
EARTH CORPS! SUIT UP!
WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM BEFORE THEY GET TO METLAR.
MEANWHILE, SANDRA SHORE MARCHES INTO THE SHORE FOUNDATION--THE PRESTIGIOUS RESEARCH INSTITUTE HEADED BY HER BROTHER, BLACKTHORNE...
SHORE FOUNDATION
I WANT THE EARTH CORPS' BUDGET CUT NOW, SENATOR! IF YOU CAN'T DO IT--
SHORE
-- SOMEBODY WHO CAN WILL HOLD YOUR OFFICE AFTER THE NEXT ELECTION! GOT IT?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO ELIMINATE THE EARTH CORPS, BLACKTHORNE?

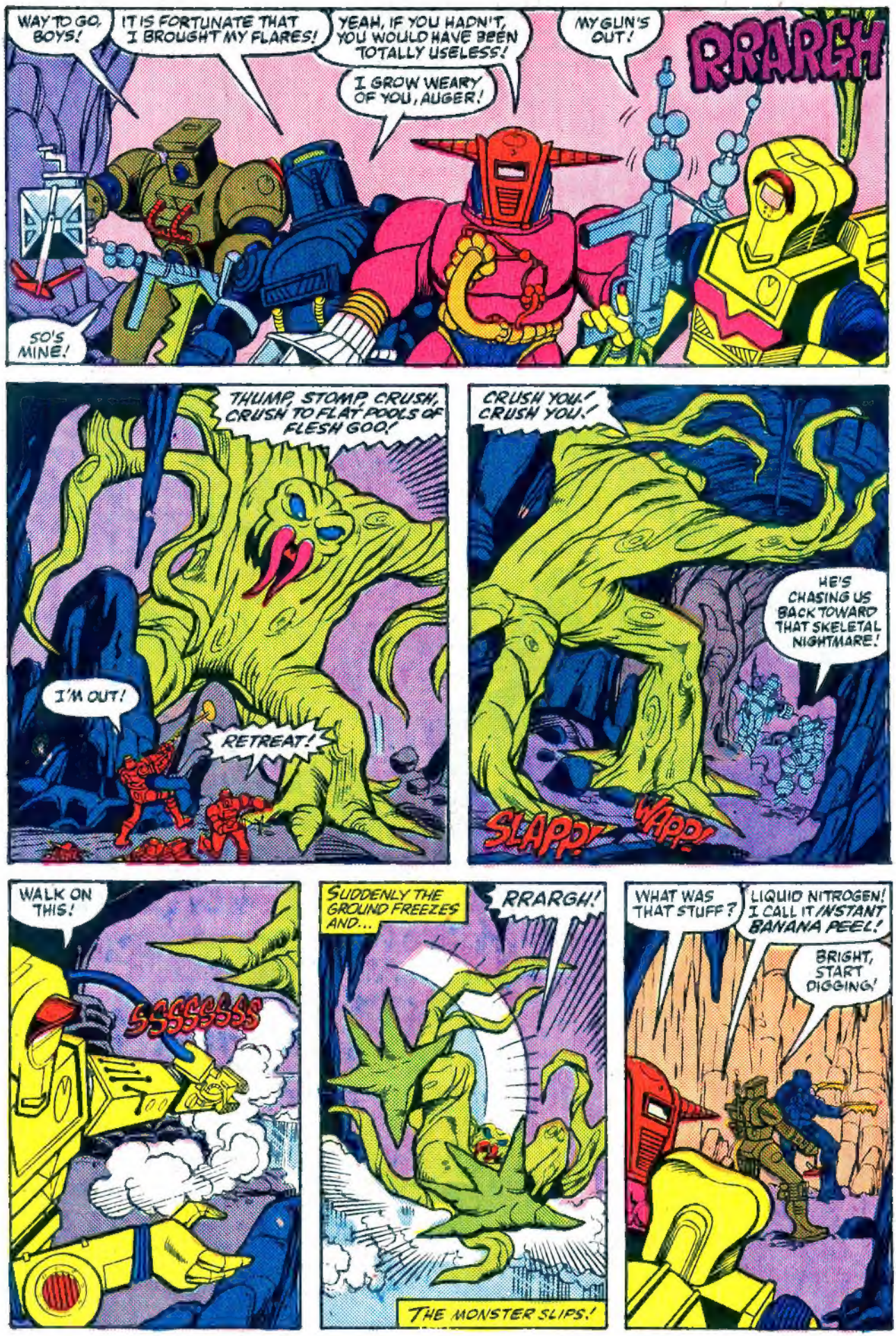
LOOK, SIS, I THOUGHT WE AGREED! YOU'D HANDLE THE GLAMOR STUFF AND I'D HANDLE THE BUSINESS!
SO, YOU KNEW ABOUT THE MONSTERS ALL ALONG!
THIS IS OUR DRILLING SHAFT!
YOU RELEASED THAT THING! WHY?!
DON'T INTERFERE WITH ME! I'VE STUDIED THE INHUMANOIDS! I KNOW THEIR SECRETS! I CAN CONTROL THEIR LEADER, METLAR!
IMAGINE THE POWER--
YOU'RE INSANE!
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH!
INSANE AM I? STOP MY SISTER AND BRING HER TO ME!
SLAMM!
THERE SHE GOES! GET HER!

NOW I'VE GOT YOOOOFF!
WUMP
GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF ME!
WE'RE NOT TRYING TO HURT YOU MISS SHORE!
SORRY I CAN'T SAY THE SAME!
WAP! WAP!
OOF!
SHE'S GETTING AWAY!
C'MON... C'MON!
RUMMRUMMRU
FINALLY, THE CAR STARTS...
ALL RIGHT! NOW YOU'RE PURRING!
SKREEEEEEEEEE
VROOOOMM!
MEANWHILE, BACK AT WHAT REMAINS OF EARTH CORPS H.Q FOLLOWING TENDRIL'S SURPRISE ATTACK...
MY DESIGN WAS FLAWLESS! THE SUITS ARE HARDLY DAMAGED!
YOUR DESIGN?! I BUILT 'EM!

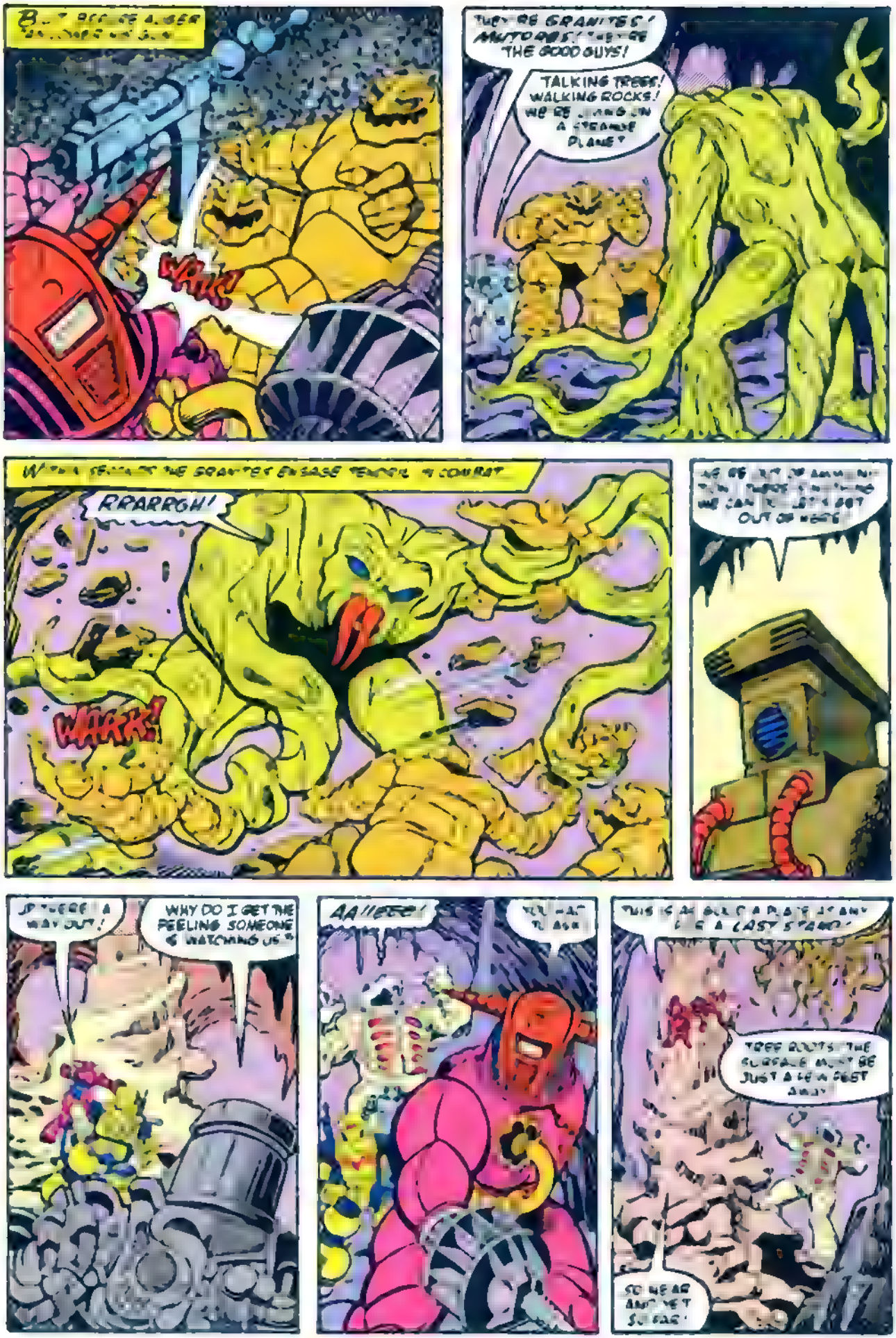
SHORTLY...
WE'RE GOING IN RIGHT WHERE TENDRIL CAME OUT! BE CAREFUL, MEN!
ALL CLEAR!
I SUGGEST WE HEAD DOWNWARD.
WHAT A BRILLIANT SUGGESTION!
OFTEN IT TAKES GREAT INTELLIGENCE TO SEE THE OBVIOUS!
GGURGLE
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
SOME MONSTROUS SHAPE IN THE SHADOWS! GOT IT!
KA-BLOOSH!
GREAT SHOT, LIQUIDATOR! YOU HIT A WATER PIPE!
RROARRR
WHOA!
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, LIQUIDATOR!
SPLASSHH
WHEW! THE WATER MUST HAVE CARRIED US FOR MILES!
THE GLOWMOSS-- IT'S BEAUTIFUL!


IT'S PARADISE! IF YOU SET UP A RESORT DOWN HERE, YOU COULD--
SHH! TRACKS...
THIS IS THE REAL THING, MEN! FUN AND GAMES ARE OVER!
THE TRACKS LEAD THIS WAY!
SUDDENLY-- WITHOUT WARNING-- D'COMPOSE STRIKES!
IT GOT HERC!
CAREFUL! DON'T HIT HERC!
ZAP!
ZATCH!
AAIIIEEE!
ZAP!
ZATCH!

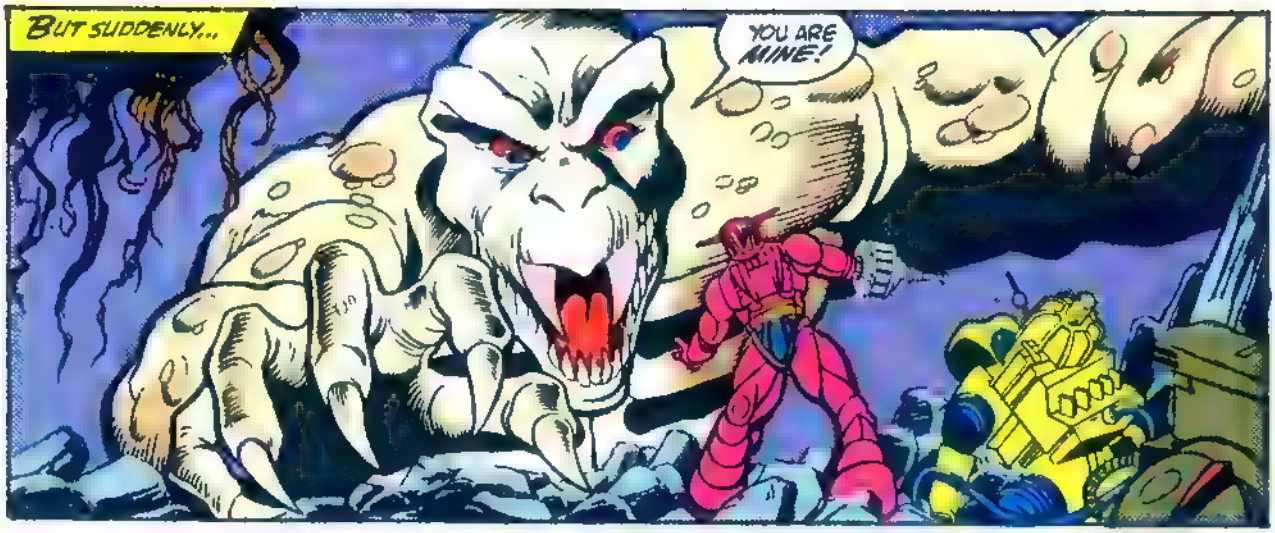

SOON THE REST OF YOU SHALL FOLLOW!
WHIIRRRR
THAT'S IT! TIMBER!
AAIIEEE!
KRUNK!
AS THE MONSTER STAGGERS...
I'M OUT OF HERE!
WITH THE PRESS OF A BUTTON, HERC'S GRAPPLING HOOK RETURNS TO HIS WRIST!
NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT IT!
TIME TO SHINE A LITTLE LIGHT ON OUR SUBJECT!
AAIIEEE!
AW, DON'T GO AWAY MAD-- JUST GO AWAY!
AAIIEEE!!


WAY TO GO, BOYS!
IT IS FORTUNATE THAT I BROUGHT MY FLARES!
YEAH, IF YOU HADN'T, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN TOTALLY USELESS!
I GROW WEARY OF YOU, AUGER!
MY GUN'S OUT!
RRARGH
SO'S MINE!
THUMP, STOMP, CRUSH, CRUSH TO FLAT POOLS OF FLESH GOO!
I'M OUT!
RETREAT!
CRUSH YOU! CRUSH YOU!
HE'S CHASING US BACK TOWARD THAT SKELETAL NIGHTMARE!
SLAP!
WAP!
WALK ON THIS!
SSSSSSS
SUDDENLY THE GROUND FREEZES AND...
RRARGH!
THE MONSTER SLIPS!
WHAT WAS THAT STUFF?
LIQUID NITROGEN! I CALL IT INSTANT BANANA PEEL!
BRIGHT, START DIGGING!

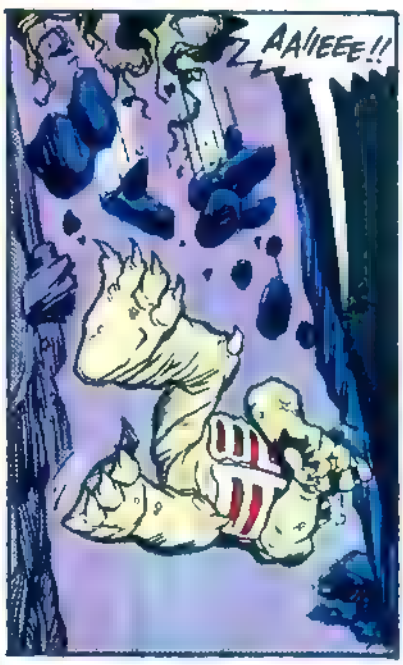
DIG I MUST!
RRARRGHH!
KKRAKK!
THESE BOULDERS SEEM TO BE FIGHTING ME!
YOU OUGHT TO GO TO THE GYM MORE OFTEN!
BUZZ OFF!
WHAT TH--?!
WONK!
OOF!
THE ROCKS ARE MOVING.. TRANSFORMING!
MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!
HOW MANY KINDS OF MONSTERS ARE THERE DOWN HERE?!
DON'T SHOOT!

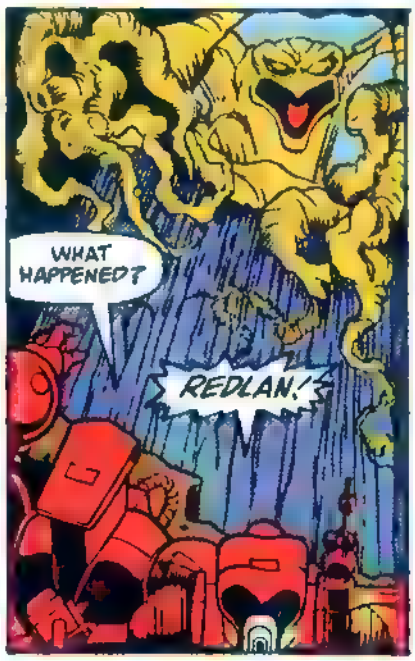

WAK!
THEY'RE GRANITES! MUTORES! THEY'RE THE GOOD GUYS!
TALKING TREES! WALKING ROCKS! WE'RE LIVING ON A STRANGE PLANET
RRARRGH!
WAKK!
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING SOMEONE IS WATCHING US?
AA!!EEE!
TREE ROOTS! THE SURFACE MUST BE JUST A FEW FEET AWAY!

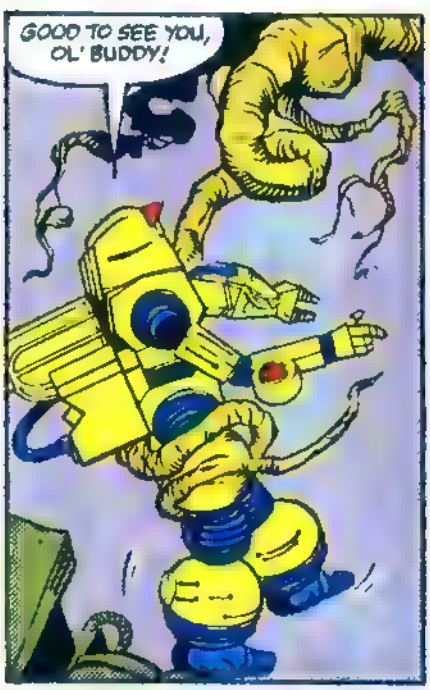
IF HE TRIES TO GET UP HERE, WE'LL NAIL HIM!
AAIIEEE!
HE'S NOT THAT STUPID!
AAIIIEEE!
KER-RAMM!
TAKE COVER!
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO JOIN MY SOLDIERS OF THE UNDEAD! PREPARE TO... DECOMPOSE!
:GROAN: BRIGHT...
:UMSHHH: I'M HERE. BUT I CAN'T MOVE, MY SUIT IS SMASHED!
ARRGH!
IS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR ARE THOSE ROOTS MOVING!
YOU HAVE NO IMAGINATION, AUGER! THEY MUST BE MOVING!


BUT SUDDENLY...
YOU ARE MINE!

INCREDIBLY, THE ROOTS TEAR A PATCH OF DIRT AWAY AND...
AAIIIEEE!

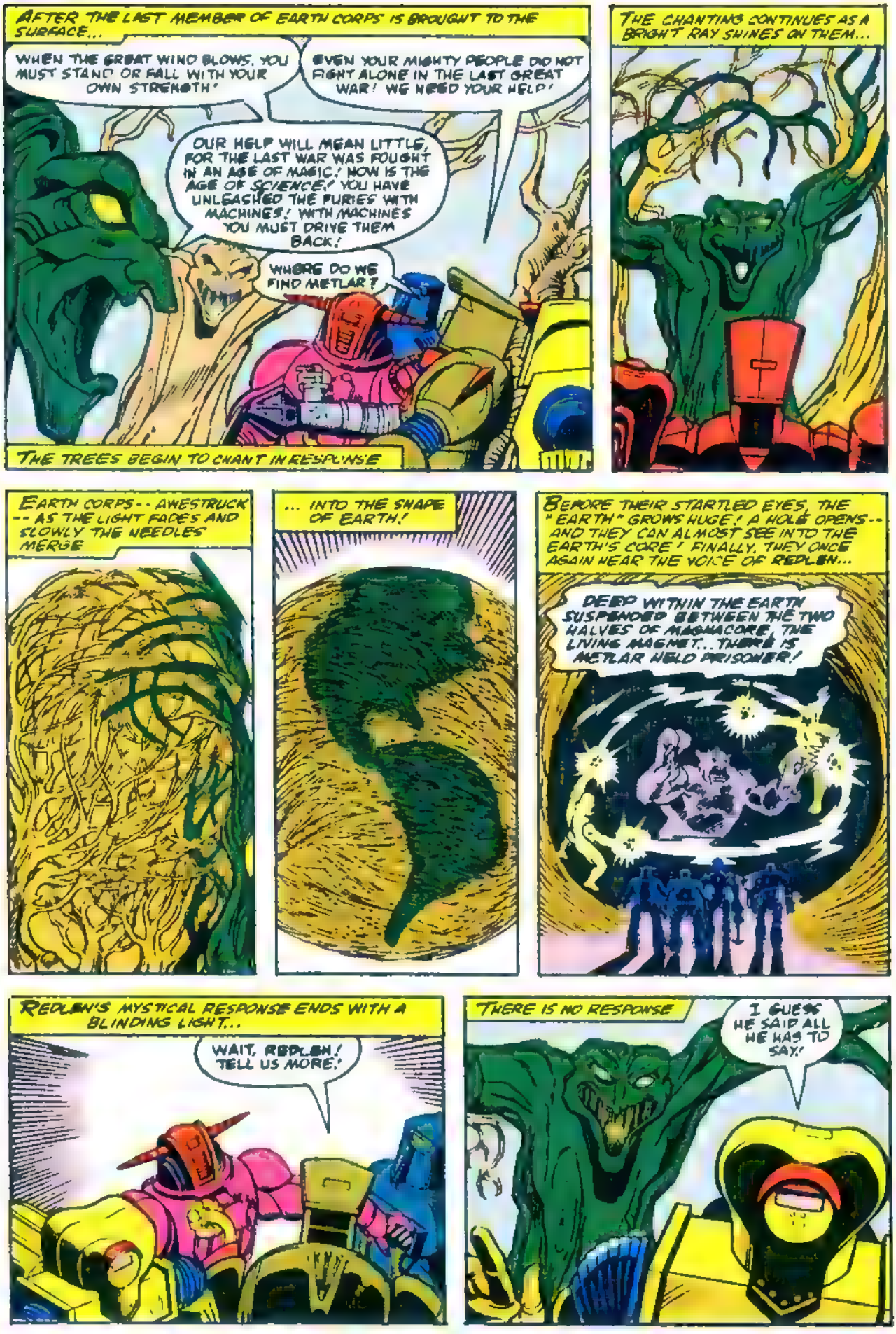

AAIIEEE!!

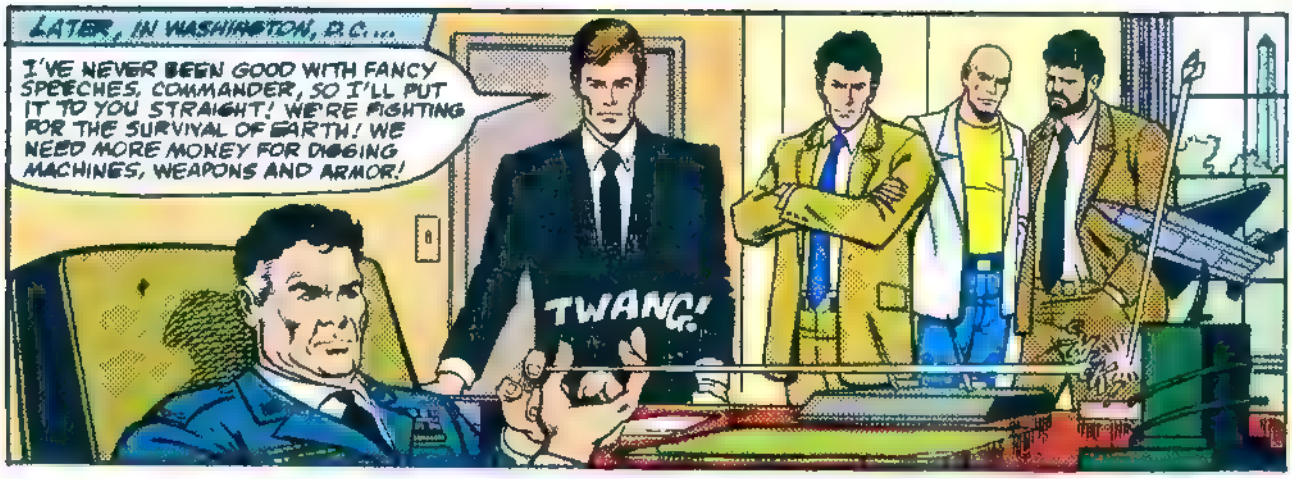

WHAT HAPPENED?
REDLAN!


GOOD TO SEE YOU, OL' BUDDY!

GOING UP!

YOU'RE NEXT, AUGER!
YOU SHALL NOT ESCAPE FOR LONG, EARTH CORPS!

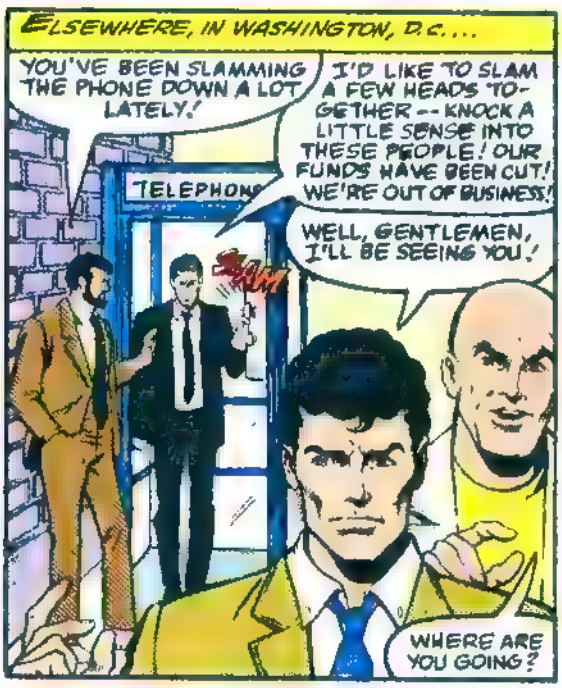

AFTER THE LAST MEMBER OF EARTH CORPS IS BROUGHT TO THE SURFACE...
WHEN THE GREAT WIND BLOWS, YOU MUST STAND OR FALL WITH YOUR OWN STRENGTH!
EVEN YOUR MIGHTY PEOPLE DID NOT FIGHT ALONE IN THE LAST GREAT WAR! WE NEED YOUR HELP!
OUR HELP WILL MEAN LITTLE, FOR THE LAST WAR WAS FOUGHT IN AN AGE OF MAGIC! NOW IS THE AGE OF SCIENCE! YOU HAVE UNLEASHED THE FURIES WITH MACHINES! WITH MACHINES YOU MUST DRIVE THEM BACK!
WHERE DO WE FIND METLAR?
THE TREES BEGIN TO CHANT IN RESPONSE
THE CHANTING CONTINUES AS A BRIGHT RAY SHINES ON THEM...
EARTH CORPS -- AWESTRUCK -- AS THE LIGHT FADES AND SLOWLY THE NEEDLES MERGE
... INTO THE SHAPE OF EARTH!
BEFORE THEIR STARTLED EYES, THE "EARTH" GROWS HUGE! A HOLE OPENS -- AND THEY CAN ALMOST SEE INTO THE EARTH'S CORE! FINALLY, THEY ONCE AGAIN HEAR THE VOICE OF REDLEN...
DEEP WITHIN THE EARTH SUSPENDED BETWEEN THE TWO HALVES OF MAGMACORE, THE LIVING MAGNET... THERE IS METLAR HELD PRISONER!
REDLEN'S MYSTICAL RESPONSE ENDS WITH A BLINDING LIGHT...
WAIT, REDLEN! TELL US MORE!
THERE IS NO RESPONSE
I GUESS HE SAID ALL HE HAS TO SAY!


LATER, IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ...
I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD WITH FANCY SPEECHES, COMMANDER, SO I'LL PUT IT TO YOU STRAIGHT! WE'RE FIGHTING FOR THE SURVIVAL OF EARTH! WE NEED MORE MONEY FOR DIGGING MACHINES, WEAPONS AND ARMOR!
TWANG!

FORGET IT, HERC! YOUR BUDGET IS CUT! EARTH CORPS IS HISTORY!
WHAT?
WASN'T I SPEAKING PLAINLY ENOUGH? YOU'VE BEEN A BOONDOGGLE SINCE DAY ONE! YOU'RE FINISHED! SENATOR MASTERSON CAME DOWN ON US LIKE A TON OF BRICKS!
MASTERSON?!

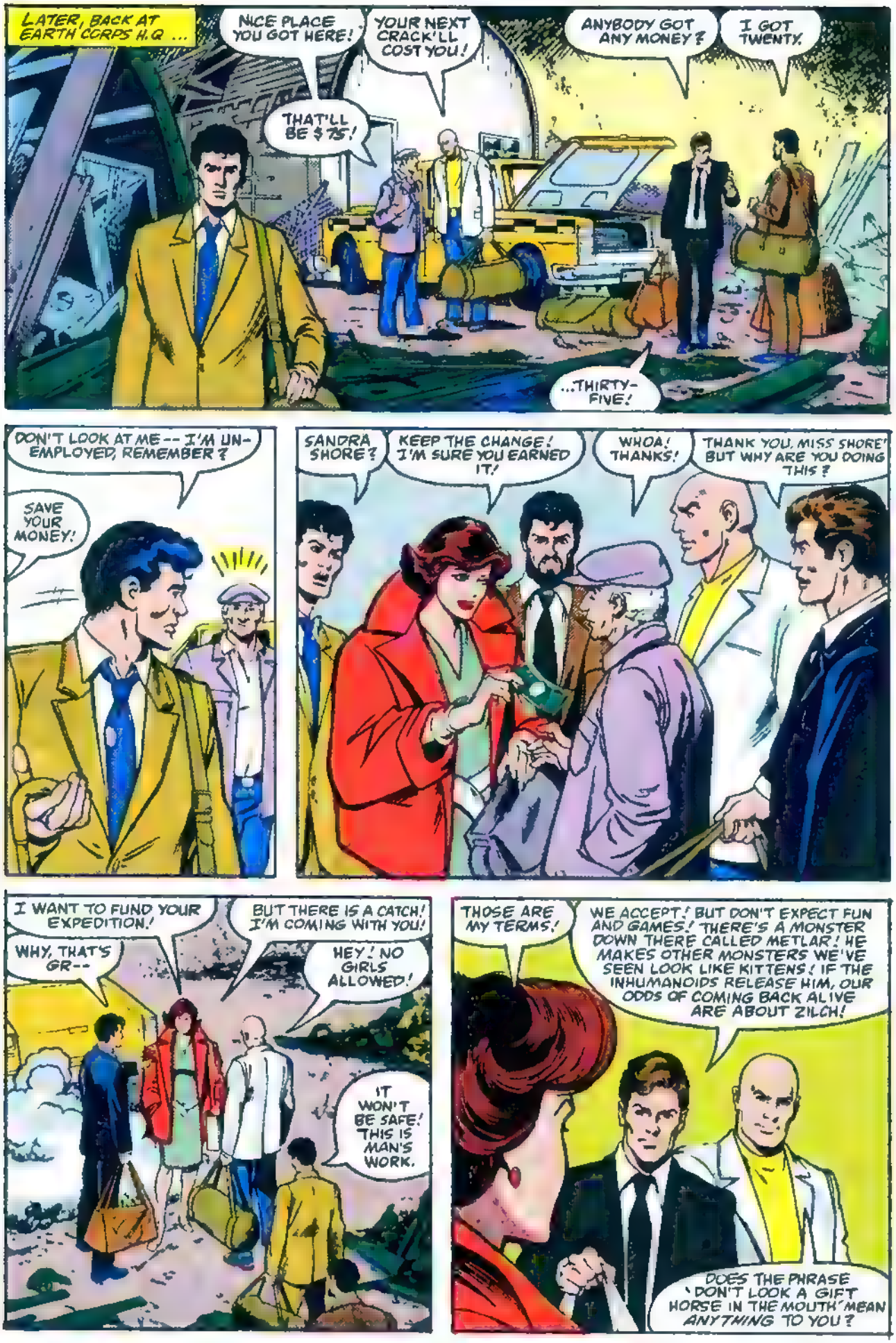
SPEAKING OF WHOM...
SENATOR MASTERSON, A HERC ARMSTRONG IS CALLING! HE SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT!
TELL HIM I'M OUT OF THE COUNTRY!
VERY GOOD, SENATOR! NOW, YOU MAY GIVE ME THE PLANS FOR ALL OF EARTH CORPS' ENVIRONMENTAL SUITS AND WEAPONS!

VERY WELL, BLACKTHORNE! I GUESS IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE NOW!
REMEMBER--ASK NOT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY-- JUST ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR BLACKTHORNE SHORE!

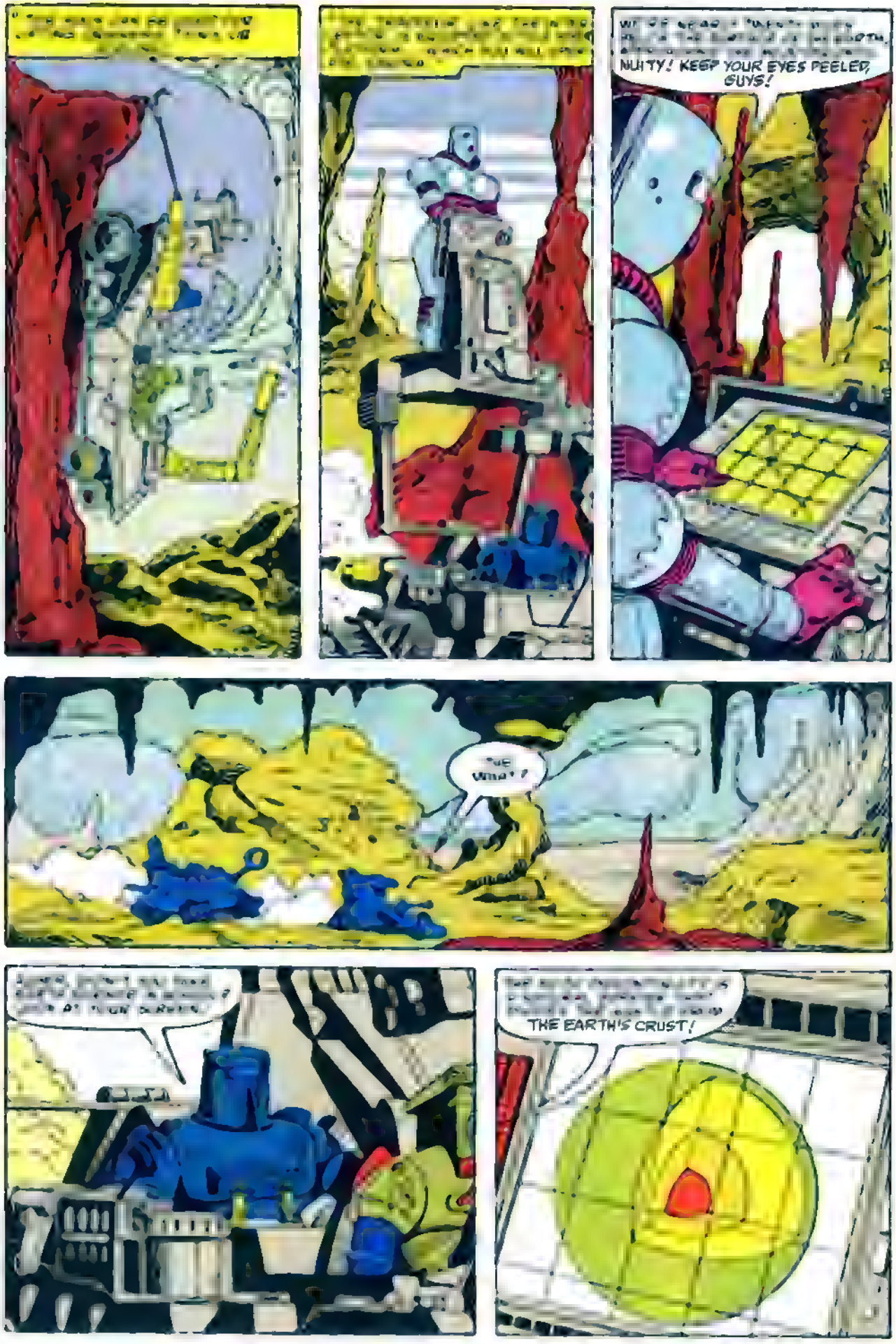

ELSEWHERE, IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ...
YOU'VE BEEN SLAMMING THE PHONE DOWN A LOT LATELY!
I'D LIKE TO SLAM A FEW HEADS TOGETHER -- KNOCK A LITTLE SENSE INTO THESE PEOPLE! OUR FUNDS HAVE BEEN CUT! WE'RE OUT OF BUSINESS!
TELEPHONE
SLAM
WELL, GENTLEMEN, I'LL BE SEEING YOU!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

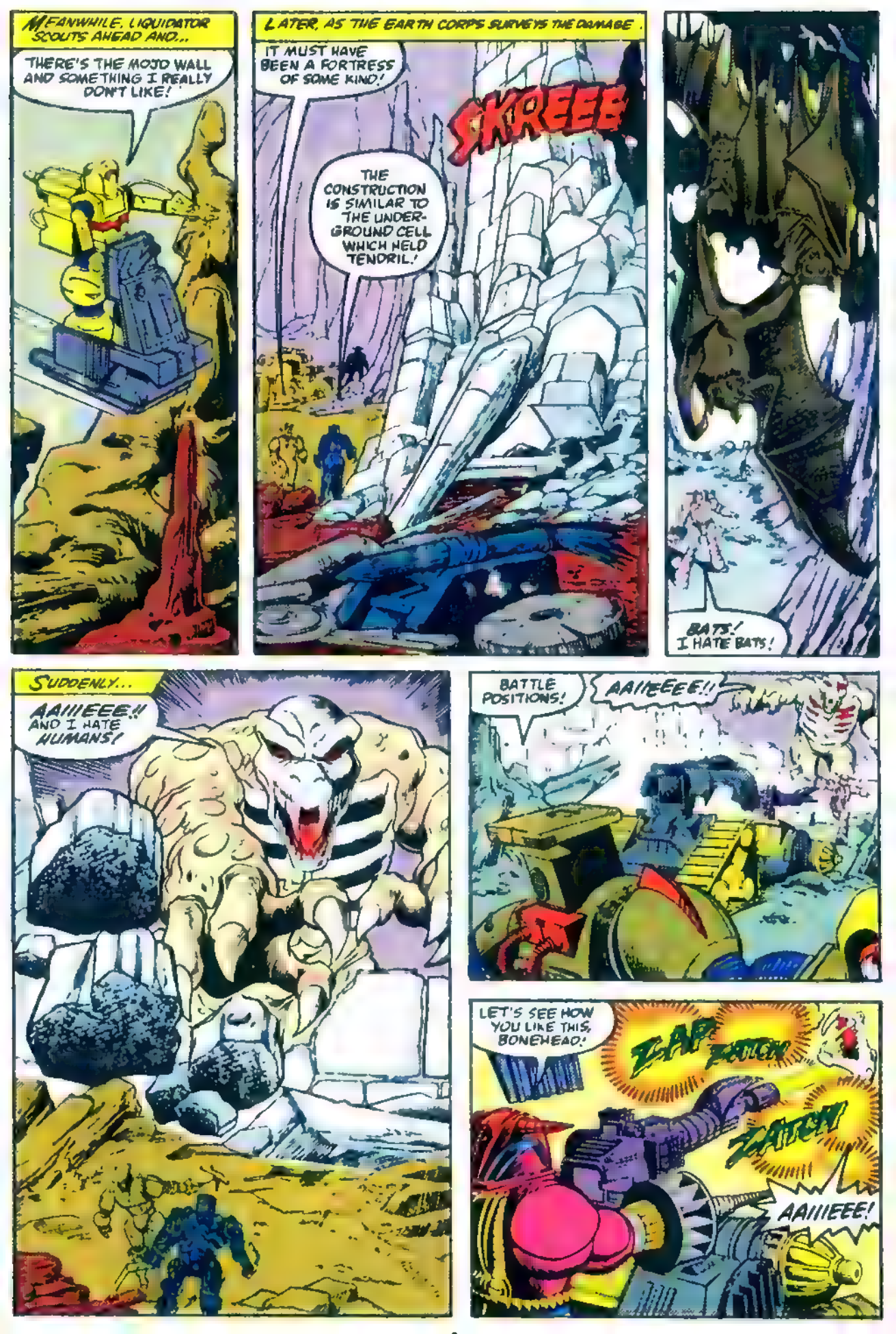
THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE! THAT'S USUALLY THE FIRST STOP WHEN YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED! ANYONE CARE TO JOIN ME?

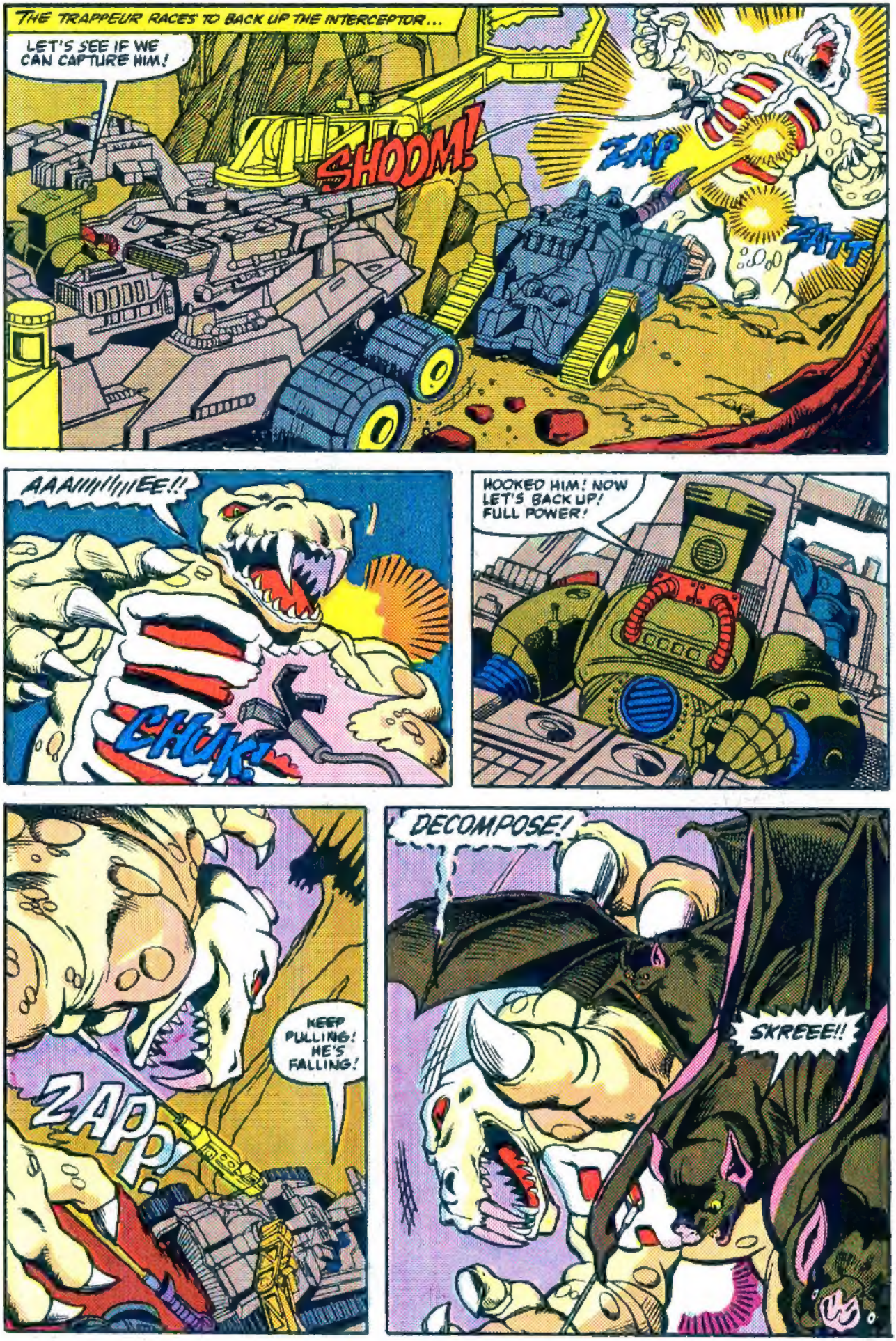
LOOK, DEREK, WE'VE STILL GOT A JOB TO DO! AND I NEED EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU BEHIND ME TO THE END! NOW WHATCHA SAY WE GET BACK TO WORK?


LATER, BACK AT EARTH CORPS H.Q ...
NICE PLACE YOU GOT HERE!
YOUR NEXT CRACK'LL COST YOU!
THAT'LL BE $75!
ANYBODY GOT ANY MONEY?
I GOT TWENTY.
...THIRTY-FIVE!
DON'T LOOK AT ME -- I'M UN-EMPLOYED, REMEMBER?
SAVE YOUR MONEY!
SANDRA SHORE?
KEEP THE CHANGE! I'M SURE YOU EARNED IT!
WHOA! THANKS!
THANK YOU, MISS SHORE! BUT WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
I WANT TO FUND YOUR EXPEDITION!
BUT THERE IS A CATCH! I'M COMING WITH YOU!
WHY, THAT'S GR--
HEY! NO GIRLS ALLOWED!
IT WON'T BE SAFE! THIS IS MAN'S WORK.
THOSE ARE MY TERMS!
WE ACCEPT! BUT DON'T EXPECT FUN AND GAMES! THERE'S A MONSTER DOWN THERE CALLED METLAR! HE MAKES OTHER MONSTERS WE'VE SEEN LOOK LIKE KITTENS! IF THE INHUMANOIDS RELEASE HIM, OUR ODDS OF COMING BACK ALIVE ARE ABOUT ZILCH!
DOES THE PHRASE 'DON'T LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH' MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?

WITH A NEW GUARDIAN ANGEL, EARTH CORPS PREPARES FOR ITS MISSION...
THIS IS THE 'INTERCEPTOR'! ASSUMING THAT AUGER KNOWS HOW TO READ, IT SHOULD BECOME A REALITY ALMOST OVERNIGHT!
INTERCEPTOR
AUGER WORKS DAY AND NIGHT CONSTRUCTING THE INTERCEPTOR...
IT WILL HOLD TWO SCIENTISTS! AUGER WILL OPERATE THE CONTROL PANEL AND FRONT GUN WHICH PIVOTS SIDE TO SIDE TO WARD OFF INHUMANOID ATTACK!
AND LIQUIDATOR WILL RIDE A DETACHABLE FLIGHT POD UNIT FOR ESCAPE AND EXPLORATION!
THIS IS THE 'TRAPPEUR'!
TRAPPEUR
VERY IMPRESSIVE!
" HERC WILL RIDE IN FRONT OPERATING THE CLAW!
" THE BATTERING RAM PIVOTS SIDE TO SIDE!
CRASH!


NUITY! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED, GUYS!
HE What?
THE EARTH'S CRUST!


MEANWHILE, LIQUIDATOR SCOUTS AHEAD AND...
THERE'S THE MOJO WALL AND SOMETHING I REALLY DON'T LIKE!
LATER, AS THE EARTH CORPS SURVEYS THE DAMAGE.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A FORTRESS OF SOME KIND!
SKREEE
THE CONSTRUCTION IS SIMILAR TO THE UNDER-GROUND CELL WHICH HELD TENDRIL!
BATS! I HATE BATS!
SUDDENLY...
AAIIIEEE!! AND I HATE HUMANS!
BATTLE POSITIONS!
AAIIEEEE!!
LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE THIS, BONEHEAD!
ZAP
ZAP
ZAP
AAIIIEEE!


THE TRAPPEUR RACES TO BACK UP THE INTERCEPTOR...
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN CAPTURE HIM!
SHOOM!
ZAP
ZATT
AAAIIIIIIIIEE!!
CHUK!
HOOKED HIM! NOW LET'S BACK UP! FULL POWER!
KEEP PULLING! HE'S FALLING!
ZAP!
DECOMPOSE!
SKREEE!!

WITH BUT ONE TOUCH OF D'COMPOSE'S HAND, THE INCREDIBLE OCCURS...
SKREE!
SKREE!
SKREE!
... AND THE CURSE OF D'COMPOSE SPREADS...
SKREEEEEE SKREEEE
MEANWHILE...
AAAAIIIIIEEE!
LIKE I'VE ALWAYS SAID, THE BIGGER THEY ARE--
ZAP!
-- THE HARDER THEY FALL!
WE'VE GOT IT!
NOW LET'S TIE IT UP!
KER-RROOM!

D'COMPOSE IS DOWN, BUT NOT OUT...
DEATHBATS, DESTROY THEM!
LOOK OUT!
SCREEE!
SCREEE
I HATE BATS TO PIECES!
KA-BLAMMO
SCREEEEE
ZAP
THEY'RE STILL COMING!
SCREEEEE
ARGH!
IT'S GOT HERC!
ZAPPA ZAP
ZAP ZAP ZAP
LOOK OUT, AUGER!
THOSE BATS ARE SWOOPING IN ON HIM!

ARGHH!
SKREEE!
SKREEE!
THEY GOT AUGER!
SKREEE!
SKREEE!
NO!
SKREEE!
IS THIS THE END OF AUGER? WHERE'S HERC? HAVE THE FORCES OF EVIL FINALLY WON OVER EARTH CORPS? FIND OUT --NEXT ISSUE!
SAME BAT-TIME! SAME BAT-CHANNEL!